



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION COMMISSION

Financial Aid | College & University Approvals | Career School Licensing | Veterans State Approvals | Closed School Transcripts | Research/Studies

MINUTES OF MEETING ON MAY 13, 2010

A regular meeting of the Postsecondary Education Commission was held at 3 Barrell Court, Concord, New Hampshire at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 13, 2010. The following members were present:

Helen Giles-Gee, Chair
Father Jonathan DeFelice, Vice Chair
Stephen Appleby
Mary Clouter
John Curran
William Farrell
James Fitzgerald
Mary Ellen Fleeger
Thomas Galligan
Richard Gustafson
John Hutson
Lucille Jordan
Edward MacKay
David Mahoney
Michele Perkins
Eli Rivera
Roger Williams

The following persons also attended: Robert Fried, Executive Director, Sarah Glass, Associate Director, Robert McCarthy, Chair, Board of Directors, Neil Rose, Vice Chair, Board of Directors, Pat Thomas, Associate Director, representing Upper Valley Educators Institute; Deb Scire, Executive Director, Campus Compact for New Hampshire; Thomas Horgan, President and CEO, NH College & University Council; Paul Leather, Deputy Commissioner, NH Department of Education; Kathryn Dodge, Executive Director, Patricia Edes, Assistant to the Executive Director, Patricia Moquin, Office Assistant; Judith Knapp, Associate, Research and Studies; Anne Hoffler, Executive Assistant; Cynthia Capodestria, Student Financial Assistance Coordinator; Lynn West, Administrator and Kimberly Kenneally, Program Assistant, Career School Licensing; Larry Elbroch, Administrator and Clifton Burdette, Associate, Veterans State Approvals; Catherine Yeager, Transcriptionist

- 1) Chair Giles-Gee called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone, including Anthony Blenkinsop, Esq., our new legal counsel, and asked those present to introduce themselves.

- 2) On the motion of Mr. Gustafson, seconded by Mr. Galligan, the members accepted the minutes of March 11, 2010. The motion passed without dissent.
- 3) Executive Director Dodge presented a request from the Franklin Pierce Law Center. Franklin Pierce Law Center determined that an Affiliation with the University of New Hampshire, a high-quality, nationally-recognized, academic research university, would enhance the quality of the legal education Franklin Pierce Law Center provides, improve the experience and enhance the abilities of its faculty, and further enhance its academic reputation. The Franklin Pierce Law Center would be known as the University of New Hampshire School of Law. It was recommended that the Commission approve the Affiliation of Franklin Pierce Law Center and the University of New Hampshire upon positive review of the N.H. Department of Justice, aka the Attorney General's Office, with the requirement that Franklin Pierce Law Center forward all materials to/from the American Bar Association and the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, and invite the Commission to attend any and all visits. Attorney Blenkinsop, Esq., would review and inform Executive Director Dodge who, in turn, would inform commissioners. Ms. Jordan moved, seconded by Mr. Rivera, to approve the recommendations. The motion passed without dissent.
- 4) Chair Giles-Gee explained that the current By-Laws state that the Nominating Committee shall consist of three most recent past chairs. Due to the unavailability of past chairs, a Nominating Committee could not be established and, therefore, she chose one representative of a private institution, one representative of a public institution and one representative of the lay public to serve as the Nominating Committee. Mr. Gustafson moved, seconded by Mr. Mahoney, to ratify the formation of the Nominating Committee as described and to approve Chair Giles-Gee's actions.

Mr. Rivera then reported for the Nominating Committee. The following revised slate of officers was presented for the 2010-2012 term:

Chair (Representative of a 4-Year Public Institution) – Father Jonathan DeFelice
Interim Vice Chair (Representative of a 4-Year Private Institution) – Edward MacKay
Representative of a 2-Year Public Institution: Lucille Jordan
Representative of a Private Postsecondary Career School: Stephen Appleby
Representative of Lay Public: David Mahoney

Mr. Rivera moved, seconded by Mr. Galligan, to accept the slate of officers. The motion passed without dissent.

Mr. Rivera recommended that current By-Laws be updated to allow for the formation of the Nominating Committee.

- 5) Ms. Knapp distributed and presented the *Status Report of Postsecondary Education in the State of New Hampshire*. She highlighted statistics that provide a context for the Governor's P-16 Working Group draft goals. The report is available on www.nh.gov/postsecondary

- 6) Executive Director Dodge presented the following proposed goals for the Governor's P-16 Working Group and asked for input from the Commission.

Goal 1: Increase percent of NH high school completers to 100%.

Goal 2: Increase NH high school completers who enroll in postsecondary programs within 12 months by 5%.

Goal 3: Increase percent of NH high school completers finishing postsecondary career or technical training by 10%.

Goal 4: Increase proportion of graduates (resident and nonresident) from NH 2- and 4-year degree programs by 5%.

Goal 5: Increase percent of college graduates (resident and nonresident) from NH 2- and 4-yr institutions who stay, work, and play in NH to 55%.

Discussion followed with many questions about Goal 1 and the actual definition of completers. Paul Leather fielded questions. Goal 5 is under revision based on new membership on the Governor's P-16 Working Group. Executive Director Dodge encouraged commissioners to provide feedback.

- 7) Executive Director Dodge presented the College Access Challenge Grant Program, a federally funded formula grant program that is designed to significantly increase the number of underrepresented students who enter and remain in postsecondary education. Governor Lynch has designated the Commission as the state agency to administer this program. The Commission is in conversations with current partners and Governor Lynch's Office to determine the best way to meet the federal goals.

Mr. Gustafson moved, seconded by Vice Chair DeFelice to accept Governor Lynch's designation of the Commission as the designated state agency with the Executive Committee working with Executive Director Dodge as needed. Executive Director Dodge would keep the Commission informed of progress. The motion passed without dissent.

At the March 11, 2010 meeting, budget cuts were discussed and the Commission recommended that a letter of support be forwarded to the governor expressing how important financial aid monies are to students, and reinforcing the work of the Commission and the benefits to the citizens of NH. Given the governor's intent to designate the Commission as the College Access Challenge Grant Program grantee, the letter to the governor was deemed inappropriate.

- 8) Paul Leather, Deputy Commissioner of the NH Department of Education, presented the Common Core Standards Initiative. Forty-eight states have signed on to the National Governors Association and Council of Chief State School Officers, a consortium, to create Common Core Standards in English Language Arts and Literacy in History/Social Studies and Science; and Mathematics. He stated that the State Board of Education would hold hearings at its June 9, 2010 for English Language Arts and Literacy in

History/Social Studies and Science, and July 14, 2010 for Mathematics. He welcomed input.

- 9) On the motion of Vice Chair DeFelice, seconded by Mr. Rivera, the Commission voted to approve the initial proposal of the N.H. Code of Administrative Rules, Pos 200, Rules of Practice and Procedure. The motion passed without dissent. Mr. Galligan recommended that consideration be given to e-filing.
- 10) On the motion of Vice Chair DeFelice, seconded by Mr. Appleby, the Commission voted to approve the initial proposal of the N.H. Code of Administrative Rules, Pos 1000, Degree-Granting Postsecondary Institutions with a Physical Presence, or Place of Contact that Conduct Advising/Mentoring or Instruction in New Hampshire. The motion passed without dissent.
- 11) Ms. West presented an update on Career School Licensing that included the required report on unlicensed career schools in NH. She reported that laws and rules for private postsecondary career schools would be revised and placed on the September 16, 2010 and December 9, 2010 agendas. Commissioners Appleby, Curran and Mahoney would assist Ms. West and input from others are welcome.
- 12) On the motion of Vice Chair DeFelice, seconded by Mr. Galligan, the Commission voted to extend degree-granting authority to Lebanon College for the Associate of Arts, Associate of Science in Business and Associate of Science in Radiography until June 30, 2012. Approvals would be contingent upon continued good standing with the Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools and the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiological Technology for the Associate of Science in Radiography. Lebanon College was required to invite the executive director to all accreditation site visits and submit related copies of all correspondence to/from ACICS and JRCERT. Annually, on or before December 31, Lebanon College would file a report with the Commission listing the names of the programs, degrees and certificates it offered as of September 1 of the year in which the report is filed and new curricular plans for the upcoming year. Lebanon College's authority would expire at the end of any calendar year for which required report(s) are not received. The motion passed without dissent.

Attorney Blenkinsop reported that the NH Department of Justice awaits the Supreme Court decision on Lebanon College's authority to offer the Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

- 13) On the motion of Vice Chair DeFelice, seconded by Mr. Curran, the Commission voted to extend degree-granting authority to St. Joseph School of Nursing for the Associate of Science in Nursing until July 30, 2012 to align with accreditation from the ACCSC. Commission approval is also contingent upon continuing approval from the NH Board of Nursing, and accreditation from the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC). St. Joseph School of Nursing is required to invite the executive director to all accreditation site visits and submit related copies of all correspondence to/from ACCSC, NLNAC and NH Board of Nursing.

- 14) On the motion of Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Appleby, the Commission voted to grant Executive Director Dodge authority to grant administrative approval to the University of Southern California, Rossier School of Nursing to offer the MAT with California certification in the State of New Hampshire through June 30, 2013. Because this is a new delivery model for a teacher preparation program and involves a partner relationship between a university and private company, also a new configuration for New Hampshire, the University of Southern California, Rossier School of Education shall provide to the Commission annual reports on the MAT Program. These reports should include information on: (1) number of New Hampshire student enrollees; (2) an overview of student demographics – age, residence, etc.; (3) school placements and “mentor teacher” identification; (4) changes in delivery or curriculum, if any, beginning December 31, 2010. This approval is also with the understanding that students would continue to complete and sign the *Informed Consent* form which explicitly states that “USC Rossier only represents that the USC Rossier MAT meets the requirements for the California Level I Preliminary Credential.” In addition, the Commission reserves the right to conduct evaluative activities, including, but not limited to: classroom visitations, meetings with master teachers, and phone conversations with students and/or classroom master teachers. Authority would expire at the end of any calendar year for which required reports are not received. The motion passed, with Ms. Fleeger voting nay.
- 15) Executive Director Dodge presented the federal legislation, H.R. 4535 – *Reduce and Prevent the Sale and Use of Fraudulent Degrees*, also cited as the *Diploma and Accreditation Integrity Protection Act of 2009*, and asked that the Commission support it.

It was decided that Executive Director Dodge would seek input from various professional associations, in particular the NAICU to determine their position on the bill and report back at the September 16, 2010 meeting. A copy of the legislation would be forwarded to commissioners.

- 16) Ms. Capodestria reported on behalf of the Financial Aid Task Force. At the December 10, 2009 meeting, it was noted that recommendations would be presented at the May 13, 2010 meeting. Previous goal language was edited to align with the goals of the Governor’s P-16 Working Group. The Financial Aid Task Force recommended that staff continue forward with the following financial aid goals:
- a. Provide incentive for student aspiration, participation and completion of postsecondary education.
 - b. Provide adequate support to NH students with high financial need.
 - c. Ensure that NH students are actually and adequately served at a higher education institution.
 - d. Provide opportunities to leverage general fund financial aid dollars by supporting grant programs over loan programs.
 - e. Ensure that programs can be assessed for their value to a student’s enrollment and completion.

Ms. Fleeger moved, seconded by Mr. Galligan, to accept financial aid goals and granted staff the authority to proceed accordingly.

- 17) Ms. Capodestria presented the New Hampshire Incentive Program Payment Schedule for 2010/2011 as follows:

2010/2011 Payment Schedule for New Hampshire Incentive Program	
In-State Institutions	Out-of-State Institutions
Up to \$1,000.00	Up to \$500.00

This was the same schedule that was in effect last year. It was agreed that the schedule would remain in place and a vote not be taken until a decision was made on the College Access Challenge Grant Program, with Executive Director Dodge working with the Executive Committee.

- 18) Executive Director Dodge presented highlights of the Executive Director Report. These included:
- a. Higher education state agency representatives from the New England states will meet again on June 22, 2010 at the New England Association of Schools and Colleges' offices to continue discussions about state processes. Representatives from our Commission, state agencies in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Vermont, the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, and the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges are expected to attend.
 - b. H.B. 1400, Requiring all colleges and universities to report crimes to the local law enforcement agency, was found Inexpedient to Legislate.
- 19) Under Other Business:
- a. Meeting dates for 2010/2011 are as follows:

Thursday, September 16, 2010 @ 2:00 p.m.
Thursday, December 9, 2010 @ 2:00 p.m.
Thursday, March 10, 2011 @ 2:00 p.m.
Thursday, May 12, 2011 @ 2:00 p.m.
 - b. As a courtesy, representatives from the Upper Valley Educators Institute presented their intent to seek degree-granting authority for the Master of Arts in Teaching and the Master of Education in Educational Leadership. The Upper Valley Educators Institute is located in Lebanon, NH and is a nonprofit corporation, independent of any other educational institution.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.